

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 08574 231212Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01
USIA-06 PRS-01 AID-05 /070 W
-----015820 231215Z /53

P R 230710Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3498
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 8574

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PK
SUBJECT: PPP ANNOUNCES OCTOBER ELECTION LISTS

1. CANDIDATES FOR NATIONAL SSEMBLY SEATS IN THE OCTOBER
18 ELECTION HAVE FILED THEIR PAPERS. OUR ANALYSIS OF THE
COUNTRY-WIDE PPP LIST REVEALS NO MAJOR CHANGE IN THE COMPOSI-
TION OF NOMINEES. APPROXIMATELY 35 PERCENT OF THE PPP CAN-
DIDATES FOR THE 200 NATIONAL ASEMBLY SEATS DID NOT RUN IN
THE MARCH ELECTION. ALTHOUGH 35 PERCENT IS A SUBSTANTIAL
CHANGE, A CLOSE LOOK AT THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN REPLACED AND,
MORE IMPORTANTLY, THOSE THAT HAVE REPLACED THEM, REVEALS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 08574 231212Z

THAT THE PPP HAS NOT ALTERED THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE
OR SHIFTED THE FOCUS OF THE IDEOLOGICAL APPEAL OF ITS
CANDIDATES. FORMER PM BHUTTO WILL CONTEST FOUR SEATS:
LARKANA, WHICH HE WON IN 1970 AND 1977, THATTA, AND
NAWABSHAH, ALSO IN SIND, AND ONE SEAT IN LAHORE.

2. THREE MAJOR GROUPS HAVE BEEN LEFT OFF THE OCTOBER PPP

LISTS:

A. THOSE POLITICIANS WHO HAVE THROWN IN THEIR LOT WITH THE PNA OR HAVE DECIDED TO STAND AS INDEPENDENTS (SEE REFTTEL).

B. SEVERAL WHO HAD A PERSONAL REASON, SUCH AS AGE FOR NO CONTESTING AND THOSE WHO BELIEVED THEY COULD NOT WIN.

C. THOSE POLITICIANS DROPPED BY THE PPP FOR THEIR CONDUCT IN THE MARCH ELECTIONS. EXAMPLES INCLUDE: MALIK AKTHAR, MAIN ATAULLAH, AND HAFEEZULLAH CHEEMA, ALL FORMER CABINET MINISTERS WHO ENGAGED IN MASSIVE VOTE RIGGING.

3. THOSE CHOSEN TO REPLACE THE WAYWARD APPEAR TO HAVE ONE OR SEVERAL OF THE FOLLOWING CHARACTERISTICS - THEY REPRESENT THE SAME FAMILY OR CLASS INTEREST AS THE PERSON THEY REPLACED, THE PPP HOPES THEY WILL BE SUPERIOR VOTE GETTERS, AND SEVERAL ARE LOWER AND MIDDLE LEVEL PPP PARTY WORKERS WHO ARE BEING REWARDED FOR THEIR WORK OR PERSONAL CONNECTIONS.

4. IN THE PUNJAB, CONGEN LAHORE REPORTS THAT 41 OF THE PPP CANDIDATES FOR THE 115 NA SEATS DID NOT RUN IN MARCH. THE PPP HAS GONE TO A CONSIDERABLE EXTENT TO ACCOMMODATE MUSTAFA KHAR AND HIS SUPPORTERS WHO HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED FIVE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TICKETS. KHAR AND FORMER RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS MINISTER KAUSER NIAZI ARE THE MOST EFFECTIVE PUNJABI POLITICAL CROWD CATCHERS IN THE PPP. BHUTTO HAS OBVIOUSLY DECIDED TO WELCOME KHAR BACK INTO THE PPP FOLD WITH OPEN ARMS, EVEN THOUGH HE IS HEARTILY DISLIKED BY MANY IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 08574 231212Z

PUNJAB AND HAS A WELL DESERVED REPUTATION FOR RUTHLESSNESS. BHUTTO BELIEVES HE NEEDS KHAR'S ORGANIZATIONAL ABILITIES, HOWEVER, AND THINKS THEY OUTWEIGH THE DRAWBACKS OF HIS REPUTATION FOR VENALITY AND CORRUPTION.

5. FOR THE SIND'S 43 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SEATS, THE PPP HAS RETAINED 29 CANDIDATES FROM THE MARCH POLLS AND ADDED 14 "NEW FACES". CONGEN KARACHI REPORTS THAT THERE ARE NO NOTABLES MISSING FROM THE PPP LIST AND THAT THE COMPOSITION OF THE LIST, INCLUDING THE 14 NEW HOPEFULS, HAS NOT CHANGED IN ANY PATTERNED WAY. FIRST PRIORITY STILL GOES TO THOSE WHO POSSESS PROMINENCE, WEALTH, AND INFLUENCE IN THE CORRECT PROPORTIONS.

6. BALUCHISTAN IS THE ONLY PROVINCE IN WHICH NEWCOMERS OUTNUMBER OLDTIMERS - FOUR TO THREE. THE THREE OLD FACES ARE SITTING MEN, AND THE FOUR NEW FACES ARE ALL EXPERIENCED PPP HANDS. ONE MAN NOT RENOMINATED IS FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL YAHYA BAKHTIAR WHO WAS ACCUSED OF LARGE-SCALE RIGGING IN MARCH.

7. IN THE NWFP, THE DUST HAS NOT YET FULLY SETTLED. SEVERAL

PROMINENT PPP POLITICIANS HAVE RECENTLY QUIT THE PART AND OTHERS HAVE REFUSED TO TAKE PPP TICKETS. IN AN ATTEMPT TO SAVE THE SITUATION, THE PPP HAS COME FULL CIRCLE AND HAS REFORGED ITS ALLIANCE WITH QAIYUM KHAN, LEADER OF THE QAIYUM MUSLIM LEAGUE. THEY HAVE AGREED TO DIVIDE THE FRONTIER'S TWENTY-SIX NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SEATS BETWEEN THEM - FIVE TO SEVEN FOR QML AND THE REMAINING FOR THE PPP. THE QML HAS NOMINATED QAIYUM KHAN TO CONTEST AGAINST AIR MARSHAL ASGHAR KHAN IN PESHAWAR.

8. PAKISTANI POLITICAL PUNDITS HAVE SPECULATED THAT BHUTTO WILL TAKE A "RADICAL AND REVOLUTIONARY" LINE DURING THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN. THE FORMER PM'S CRITICISM OF THE UNITED STATES, HIS WARNINGS ABOUT ZIONISM AND IMPERIALISM AND HIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 ISLAMA 08574 231212Z

PROFESSED UNITY WITH THE "POOR MASSES" SUPPORT THIS CONTENTION. HIS SELECTIONS FOR PPP NATIONAL ASSEMBLY NOMINEES, HOWEVER, DO NOT REPRESENT A RADICALIZED PPP. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE A NUMBER OF NEW FACES, THE CANDIDATES ARE STILL NEARLY ALL DRAWN FROM THE WEALTHY, LANDED AND PROMINENT CLASSES. WE ASSUME THAT BHUTTO HOPES TO PUT TOGETHER A COMBINATION OF POPULIST RHETORIC WITH NOMINEES FROM THE TRADITIONAL POWER ELITES, DEPENDING ON THE FORMER TO WIN POPULAR SUPPORT AND THE LATTER TO CONTROL THEIR TRADITIONAL VOTER BANKS.
HUMMEL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION CANDIDATES, NATIONAL ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ISLAMA08574
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770303-1329
Format: TEL
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770834/aaaabcmo.tel
Line Count: 147
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 56006956-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1519808
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PPP ANNOUNCES OCTOBER ELECTION LISTS
TAGS: PINT, PK, PPP
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/56006956-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009